What is claimed is:

1. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide having at least a 70% identity to a polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide comprising amino acids of SEQ ID NO: 1;

(b) a polynucleotide which is complementary to the polynucleotide of (a); and

(c) a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 bases of the polynucleotide of (a) or (b).

2. The polynucleotide of Claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide is DNA.

3. The polynucleotide of Claim 1 wherein the polynucleotide is RNA.

4. The polynucleotide of Claim 2 which encodes a polypeptide comprising amino acid set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

5. An isolated polynucleotide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of:

(a) a polynucleotide having at least a 70% identity to a polynucleotide encoding the same mature polypeptide expressed by the human DNA in SEQ ID NO: 2;

(b) a polynucleotide complementary to the polynucleotide of (a); and

(c) a polynucleotide comprising at least 15 bases of the polynucleotide of (a) or (b).

6. A vector comprising the DNA of Claim 2.

7. A host cell comprising the vector of Claim 6.

8. A process for producing a polypeptide comprising: expressing from the host cell of Claim 7 a polypeptide encoded by said DNA.

9. A process for producing a cell which expresses a polypeptide comprising transforming or transfecting the cell with the vector of Claim 6 such that the cell expresses the polypeptide encoded by the human cDNA contained in the vector.

10. A polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence which is at least 70% identical to amino acid set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

11. A polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO: 1.

12. An agonist to the polypeptide of Claim 10.

13. An antibody against the polypeptide of Claim 10.

14. An antagonist which inhibits the activity of the polypeptide of Claim 10.

15. A method for the treatment of a patient having need of ICE LAP-6 comprising: administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide of Claim 10.

16. The method of Claim 15 wherein said therapeutically effective amount of the polypeptide is administered by providing to the patient DNA encoding said polypeptide and expressing said polypeptide *in vivo*.

17. A method for the treatment of a patient having need to inhibit ICE LAP-6 polypeptide comprising: administering to the patient a therapeutically effective amount of the antagonist of Claim 14.

18. A process for diagnosing a disease or a susceptibility to a disease related to expression of the polypeptide of Claim 10 comprising: determining a mutation in the nucleic acid sequence encoding said polypeptide.

19. A diagnostic process comprising: analyzing for the presence of the polypeptide of Claim 10 in a sample derived from a host.

20. A method for identifying compounds which bind to and activate or inhibit a receptor for the polypeptide of Claim 10 comprising: contacting a cell expressing on the surface thereof a receptor for the polypeptide, said receptor being associated with a second component capable of providing a detectable signal in response to the binding of a compound to said receptor, with a compound to be screened under conditions to permit binding to the receptor; and determining whether the compound binds to and activates or inhibits the receptor by detecting the presence or absence of a signal generated from the interaction of the compound with the receptor.